

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Morning & Evening Prayer is held in the Chapel on weekdays at 8.30am and 5pm respectively.

MONDAY 26 May

- 1.30pm** Anglicare Auxiliary meets in Rutherford Room
2.15pm Amanda Touhey, Wildlife Artist, speaks in the Rutherford Room—*"There is beauty all around us."* All welcome.

TUESDAY 27 May

- 12 noon** Eucharist
12.45pm Staff Meeting
3.15pm Liturgy Meeting

WEDNESDAY 28 May

- 9.30am** Education Committee meets in Dempster Room
9.30am Little Seeds Playgroup
11.30am Eucharist in the Chapel
12.15pm BYO Lunch in Dempster Room
7.00 for 7.15pm Parish Conversation—in Rutherford Room. Guest Speaker: Daniel Webb. Chaired by Dr Norm Fary.

THURSDAY 29 May—Ascension Day

- 6.30pm** Eucharist followed by optional dining out locally.

ABM SOUTH SUDAN EMERGENCY APPEAL- Flyer and donation forms are on the table at the back of the church or www.abmission.org/southsudan.

NEXT SUNDAY - 1 June 2014

Easter 7

Acts 1. 6-14; Psalm 68. 1-10, 32-35;
1 Peter 5; John 17. 1-11.

8am EUCHARIST

- Presider:** Emily Fraser
Preacher: Helen Creed
Readers: Hans Ferdinands
Intercessor: Keith Dempster
Server: TBA
Euch. Asst. Hans Ferdinands

Healing Ministry in the Chapel—Clergy will be available from 9.00-9.30am.

10.00am SUNG EUCHARIST

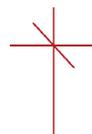
- Presider:** Emily Fraser
Preacher: Helen Creed
Deacon: Kuncoro Rusman
Sub-Deacon: TBA
Readers: Noel Anderson; Margaret Anderson
Intercessor: Noela Manton
Servers: TBA
Euch. Assts. Sub-Deacon; Jenny Cook
Kidz@Church: Caroline Tanner, Wendy Way, Sue Massoud

12.00 noon Regina Caeli in the Chapel

3.00pm INDONESIAN : Kuncoro Rusman

4.00pm CONFESSING OUR FAITH

6.00pm CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE



CONTACT

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, CAMBERWELL

Easter 6—25 May 2014

My Dear Friends,

It was my good fortune on Wednesday evening to experience the public lecture at Trinity College by James Alison. He has an eye for interesting titles: 'Being wrong and telling the truth'; Dispatches from the scene of a break-in'; Reconciliation in the wink of a hippo'. Wednesday's lecture title? 'Cinderella no longer... taking hope to the ball'. Hope. I experienced someone not only speaking words, ideas, *about* something called 'hope' – his very presence, his manner of being, was like a live modelling of a state of being felt, experienced, as hope.

I suspect James Alison is right when he suggests that most people relate to this word 'hope' as a property of individual work, a heroic 'power of positive thinking' effort (notoriously, I would add, fostering self-righteousness). If we can't make ourselves feel this way, we are inclined to interpret that as a lack of hope – and of course, a failure on our part. Revealingly, when I say 'I don't have hope' I am well and truly exposed – the first person singular pronoun 'I' indicates where I think hope comes from!

But in fact, the *εὐαγγέλιον* *evangelion* ('gospel') is the declaration that *we have been given* hope! Hope is not the consequence of *our* effort at all! Rather, hope is grounded in the resurrection of Christ. Hope is the work not of us, but of another - of the Other. Hope is the free gift. And here's the part which James Alison so beautifully elucidates: hope is not a property, but a dynamic action, like the filling out of sails, or like being pulled forward by something from the future. And because this hope draws us, from the future, it's not dependent on the situation of the present, or the past. Hope is drawing us into a future we cannot see, cannot conceive of. Hope, Christ-grounded hope, is that which rises out of suffering and death.

I suspect that this is the very reason why all the latest franchise-minded 'church growth' schemes are doomed to go the same way as all the misguided schemes before them. The energy, the orientation, gives the game away. Hope based on perceived institutional strength is not hope at all – at least, it's not evangelical hope. Evangelical hope, rather, is that which is gratuitously drawing us, by the future we cannot see from the vantage point of whatever suffering we are presently enduring, or which may haunt our past. Evangelical hope isn't something I make myself 'believe in'. Rather, it's that which enables me to live fully, joyfully and expectantly, in spite of the apparent intractability of the suffering in which I may feel mired, even when all seems completely lost. As a colleague said recently: only those who have died know how to live.

With my love, David

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SERVICES TODAY

WELCOME! We are glad to have you join us in the sacred liturgy. With generations of Christ's followers we are all welcomed around the banquet table of the Word made flesh—regardless of gender, race, colour, sexual orientation, social status or any other distinction. And you are warmly invited to join us for morning tea in the Rutherford Room following the liturgy.

8.00am Eucharist

Presider: David Moore
Preacher: Kuncoro Rusman
Deacon: Kuncoro Rusman
Readers: Oliver Beaumont & Pamela Bowen
Intercessor: Hans Ferdinands
Server: Hans Ferdinands
Euch. Asst. Hans Ferdinands

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Presider: David Moore
Preacher: Kuncoro Rusman
Deacon: Kuncoro Rusman
Sub-Deacon: Neil Nyholm
Readers: Verona Lea, Neil Nyholm
Intercessor: Sue Pratt-O'Donnell
Cantor: Judy Moore
Servers: Ross Smith (MC)
Geoff Vincent, James Moorhouse,
Robin Carter
Euch. Assts. Sub-Deacon, Verona Lea

KIDZ@CHURCH: Andrew Porter, Georgina Porter and Jacquelyn Bergstrum

11.30am OPEN FORUM in the Rutherford Room

12 noon Regina Caeli

3.00pm Indonesian Congregation—Kuncoro Rusman

4.00pm “Confessing our Faith” - Dempster Room

6.00pm Contemplative Service

Readings for the day:
Acts 17. 22-31; Psalm 66. 7-19;
1 Peter 3. 8-22, John 14. 15-21

EASTERTIME After the liturgical simplicity and austerity of Lent, we now pull out all the stops - 40 days of preparation for 50 days of celebration - *Christ is risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

PASCHAL MYSTERY: Resources for Lent-Easter. A guide for the season is still available in the narthex.

PASCHAL CANDLE The Paschal Candle illuminated our way in the pre-dawn light on Easter Day. It remains lit throughout Eastertime's 50 days of celebrating, after which it is lit for baptisms and funerals.

ASCENSION DAY On the 40th day of Eastertime the church celebrates the exaltation of the crucified and risen Christ - and Christ's accomplishment, which is the exaltation of all flesh, the 'fullness of the One who fills all in all'. All are welcome to celebrate the feast - **6.30pm Thursday 29 May**, in the chapel - followed by optional dining out locally after the Eucharist. Please put your name on the list on the noticeboard if you wish to dine out.

PARISH WEBSITE: A reminder that you can find 'Contact' for each Sunday, as well as the sermon, on the parish website: www.stjohnscamberwell.org.au. They are uploaded promptly. So if you are away from church for any reason, you can keep up-to-date with parish life. If you do not have access to the internet and would like print-outs of the sermons, please phone the parish office.

A PRAYER JOURNAL for June-July is available today at the back of the church. Please take a copy.

TODAY—OPEN FORUM Everyone is welcome and warmly invited to participate in a parish 'Open Forum' – **11.30am-12.30pm Sunday 25 May**, in the Rutherford Room. This will be a conversation which I will chair. The agenda is open. There will be no motions, nor is debate its aim – that's what Parish Council is quite properly set up to do. Rather, the aim is for us to hear each other, freed from the need to rebut. There will be no 'minutes' – but the key points will be summarised and distributed to all afterwards. I will be very happy to answer any questions which are mine to answer, and I will be most grateful to hear from you about what matters. Though I should add that I do not intend this to be primarily a conversation with me - rather I envisage an atmosphere in which all of us converse with each other about the mission and ministry of St John's. *David*

'CONFESSING OUR FAITH': This afternoon's topic will be 'New Life!'; next Sunday's will be 'Journeying into God'. Casual attendees welcome: \$10. We meet in the Dempster Room at 4pm. Please enter via the Parish Centre entrance.

TOMORROW, MONDAY 26 MAY, 2.15PM Come to hear Amanda Touhy, Wildlife Artist, speak in the Rutherford Room on the topic *"There is beauty all around us"*. Afternoon tea. This will be preceded by an Anglicare Auxiliary Meeting at 1.30pm. All welcome.

WEDNESDAY 28 May—A PARISH CONVERSATION ON ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES will be held in the Rutherford Room. Refreshments at 7.00pm before the Conversation starts at 7.15pm. The aim is to enable parishioners to hear the facts about this issue, to take part in discussion groups and ask questions of the speaker. An explanatory leaflet is available.

PENTECOST SUNDAY—8 JUNE: All are invited to wear something red at the Pentecost Sunday liturgies—A coat, a scarf, a hat or gloves, or whatever is red!

YEAR'S MIND: We remember before God, Sheila Hooper, Phyllis Montague, Lesley Oliver, Heather Burlison, Barbara Strachan, and Claude O'Leary, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

WELCOME TO ITALY!

This is our 2014 Winter Dinner theme. A night not to be missed—mark this date in your diary now **25/7/14**. Tickets on sale as from Tuesday 1st July either through the Church Office or after the 10.00am services on the following Sundays.

New goods or talents for the silent auction are now open to be received. Contact Neicia Shaw on 9836 2232 or neicia@nsproject.com.au.

USED TERRACOTTA PLANT POTS— 10 or 12 of these (120mm in diameter) are needed for the Winter Dinner. Please bring to the church or speak with Neicia.

READERS, EUCHARISTIC ASSISTANTS AND INTERCESSORS: Please advise Keith Wilkins re availability/non-availability for June, July and August *incl. either by email:* keithmcianwil@iprimus.com.au or by phone on mobile 0425 318 743.

FUTURE DATES

PARISH CONVERSATION on Asylum Seekers and Refugees : Wednesday May 28: 7pm Refreshments — 7.15pm Conversation starts.

ASCENSION DAY: 29 May—Eucharist 6.30pm followed by optional dining out. See notice on page 2.

PENTECOST PARISH EUCHARIST & Dinner—Saturday 14 June, commencing at 5pm in the Chapel

WINTER DINNER: Evening of Friday 25 July.